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26 August 1966

Country: USSR/Latvia

Subject: Latvian Underground Movement

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1. The Jansals Kurzis Unit, prior to German capitulation, was liquidated in a battle against the Germans. Its survivors were deported to the German concentration camp at Stutthof.
2. The troops -- known as the 19th Latvian Division -- which without interruption had fought on the Courland Front, took to the woods after the German capitulation and began guerrilla activities. The Division was composed of:

	<u>Number of men</u>
Two infantry regiments .....	7,000
One artillery regiment .....	2,000
Two anti-tank units .....	2,000
One engineers' battalion .....	700
Two anti-aircraft battalions ...	1,400
Two frontier-guard regiments ...	6,000
Four police battalions .....	2,000
Four fortification and construction battalions .....	2,700
National Guards, policemen, and patriotic partisans .....	<u>25,000</u>
Total .....	<u>46,800</u>

Of the total, about 1,000 were commissioned officers and some 2,000 were non-commissioned officers.

3. After the German capitulation on 13 May 1945, the Russians started a large-scale mopping up operation. As a result, the number of partisans decreased by about fifty per cent. Some 16,000 men were deported to Siberia. About 25,000 men escaped from imprisonment. According to a recent report, an additional 7,000 men have been eliminated since

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and thus 18,000 men remain.

4. Some 8,000 men have gradually migrated to the Vidzeme and Latgale Provinces, to places near their former homes, where they have joined partisan units already in operation there. Therefore, the number of partisans in Courland at present is estimated to be 10,000 men.
5. According to information received six months ago, the armament of the Courland partisans consists of: ten tanks, a few heavy artillery guns, a greater number of light artillery guns, and light armament. According to information received six months ago, the supply of munitions was adequate. (Although the above figures on the number and armament of partisans in Courland can scarcely be regarded as 100% accurate, they are considered to be approximately correct.)
6. [redacted] there are at present about 20,000 partisans in Latgale and Vidzeme. They employ only light armament.
7. In all of Latvia, according to recent estimates, the number of partisans total about 30,000 men who have united into an organization known as the "Latvian Liberation Movement".
8. Guerrilla activities are carried on throughout Latvia, but the largest partisan groups are operating in the forests of Renda, Avava, Ugale, Klotka, Uzma, Miltene, Lugaizi, Livoni, Saka, Salpils, Sliete, Varsisi, Ierini, Gaujiena, Palamuse, Jaikene, Zeknase, and Betyl; the Labona marshes; and in the environs of Jumprava.